

**Research Update  
October 23, 2004**

New York

The fifth annual day-long conference at the Grand Hyatt Hotel will feature presentations by the world's leading scientists and islet transplant recipients. The Barton Center for Diabetes Education will provide complimentary childcare.

**"The Incredibles" Screening  
October 31, 2004**

California

Guests will enjoy an afternoon event that includes lunch, games, contests, an auction and the advance screening of Pixar's new film, "The Incredibles," to be held at Walt Disney Studios.

**Fall into Fashion Luncheon  
November 4, 2004**

Long Island

Featuring a fashion show and luncheon, this event pays tribute to the Broadway scene. To be held at Carlyle on the Green, the show will include fashions by Ellen Tracy, Americana, Manhasset.

**Diabetes Research Institute  
Harold Kart Golf Classic  
November 15, 2004**

Florida

To be held at Boca West Country Club, this annual tournament will be followed by a cocktail reception and awards dinner.

**Empire Ball  
December 1, 2004**

New York

New York's real estate industry will unite for this elegant black-tie gala, which will be held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

**Love and Hope Preview Party  
December 9, 2004**

Florida

This dinner reception, to be held at the Diplomat Country Club in Hallandale, is the official start of the Love and Hope season.

**Theater Party  
December 11, 2004**

New York

Billy Crystal will star in "700 Sundays," an autobiographical journal written by the renowned comedian.

**"Soar for a Cure"  
January 22, 2005**

Florida

To be held at Aeroservice Aviation Center in Miami, guests of this unique event will have the opportunity to fly FAA-certified simulators and experience the thrill of piloting a plane

**DRI Golf & Tennis Classic  
January 31, 2005**

Florida

An afternoon of golf and tennis tournaments at La Gorce Country Club in Miami Beach followed by a cocktail reception and an awards dinner.

**World of Hope  
February 5, 2005**

Florida

A unique, interactive conference featuring the leading scientists in cure-focused research will include general sessions and a luncheon.

**"A Gift of Love..A Gift of Hope"  
February 7, 2005**

Florida

Boutiques, luncheon, and card party to be held at Boca Woods Country Club.

**Love and Hope Ball  
February 26, 2005**

Florida

Black tie gala to be held at the Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood.

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The Diabetes Research Institute Foundation supports the Diabetes Research Institute at the University of Miami School of Medicine, whose mission is to develop and rapidly apply the most promising research to treat and cure those now living with diabetes. To obtain additional information or request copies of DRIfocus, please call (800) 321-3437 or e-mail lweintraub@drif.org.

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# DRI focus

Miami • New York • Long Island • California • Washington, D.C.

## Ricordi Presents at Landmark UN Conference on Stem Cell Research

DRI Scientific Director Camillo Ricordi, M.D., joined other opinion leaders from the world of science for a landmark conference at the United Nations on human cloning and stem cell research this past June. The conference, "Human Cloning Issues in All its Aspects for the United Nations," was hosted by the Genetics Policy Institute (GPI) of Coral Gables, and brought together some of the world's leading experts in biomedical research to educate the United Nations delegates before a much-awaited vote that will either defend or ban therapeutic cloning across the globe.



Addressing a panel of UN delegates at the United Nations Conference on Stem Cell Research, (front row) Camillo Ricordi, M.D., Diabetes Research Institute, University of Miami; Gerald Schatten, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine; Daniel Heumann, Daniel Heumann Fund for Spinal Cord Injuries; (second row) Alan Trounson, MSc, Ph.D., Monash University, Australia; and Woo Suk Hwang, DVM, Ph.D., and Shin-Yong Moon, M.D., Seoul National University, Republic of South Korea.

### Congratulations

to Florida Board Member  
Gary Hall, Jr. for his  
2004 Olympic Gold Medal!



Presenting before a UN panel, the scientists drew a clear distinction between unethical reproductive cloning and the procedure that has the potential to cure countless diseases – therapeutic cloning.

Speaking specifically about diabetes, Dr. Ricordi called attention to the alarming incidence of the disease worldwide, a total of 200 million people this year, and a projected 300 million by 2025. Islet transplantation, he argued, could benefit the majority of the diabetic population, provided there were enough insulin-producing cells to treat those with the disease.

Embryonic stem cell research is one avenue of research that could make islet transplantation possible on a much larger scale. Not only does it offer the potential to produce an unlimited supply of islets for transplantation, but also to develop cells

that are genetically identical to the patient receiving the cells, therefore eliminating the need for immunosuppression. This would allow for safe transplants for all patients with diabetes, including children.

"It's important that scientists take an active part in the education of our policy makers because a clear difference exists between therapeutic cloning which can benefit millions of patients, and the unethical reproductive cloning that most of the scientific world is opposed to," said Dr. Ricordi, who serves on GPI's scientific advisory board. "It's also our responsibility to clarify what the consequences of a ban on therapeutic cloning research will mean for patients who are ill today with a wide range of diseases, those who will contract diseases in the future, and for our country's biomedical research as a whole."



## A Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends,  
Today, the opportunities for scientific discovery are unprecedented, and both the Diabetes Research

Institute and Foundation are committed to exploring every avenue to cure those living with this disease. Pursuing these many pathways, however, requires considerable financial resources. Without hesitation, the Foundation is determined to provide the necessary funding to the DRI, and so, as of last year, we have embarked on an aggressive plan to double our fundraising over the next five years.

The Foundation's support has enabled continued progress and expansion in many research areas, a recent example being the Institute's stem cell development program. DRI researchers, like their many colleagues throughout the scientific community, believe that stem cell research holds great promise for diabetes and countless other diseases. Closing the door on so many possibilities to find cures - and on the millions of people who suffer - is unthinkable.

Last year, the United Nations considered a global ban on stem cell research and therapeutic cloning that would have halted this vital work. By a one-vote margin, the decision was deferred until October of this year. To help ensure that this research will continue, Dr. Camillo Ricordi joined other distinguished scientists at a pivotal UN conference in June, where they presented before a panel of delegates who will vote on this critical issue in a couple of months (cover story).

The conference was hosted by the Genetics Policy Institute, whose founder, Bernard Siegel, will be one of the presenters at our 5th annual New York Research Conference on Saturday, October 23rd in New York City. Mr. Siegel, DRI scientists and our other guest speakers will present an update on research into the biological replacement of insulin, including stem cells and alternative therapies. For more information on the conference, please visit our website at [www.drinet.org](http://www.drinet.org).

The research update is just one of the many exciting events planned for this year. We are

fortunate again to be the beneficiary of an advance screening of Pixar's newest film, *The Incredibles*, which will be held on October 31st at the Walt Disney Studios in California (see calendar). Our gratitude is extended to California board member John Ratzenberger, who was instrumental in arranging this benefit for us.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest members of the Foundation's national board of directors, and thank our outgoing members. We are grateful for your service and contributions to this organization.

We welcome the participation and involvement of all who want to join our mission to cure diabetes. We thank you for your continued generosity, and look forward to seeing you at our many events throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Marc S. Goodman

## New Directors Join the National Board

At its quarterly meeting, held June 21, the board of directors of the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation elected four new members to serve on the national board. Chairman Marc S. Goodman thanked the outgoing directors, Randy Dorfman, Robert Georgine, C. Shelton James, Louis Kaitz, Sheryl Keller, Robert N. Lowe, Jr., and Jeffrey Zane for their past service with DRIF, and then passed the torch to our newest board members.

Paul L. Cejas served as the US Ambassador to Belgium from 1998-2001. A resident of Miami, Cejas has been a business and civic leader in the South Florida community for more than 30 years. He is chairman and CEO of PLC Investments, Inc., a family-owned company that manages investments in real estate, healthcare, and various venture capital projects. He was the founder, chairman and CEO of CareFlorida Health Systems, Inc., the country's largest Hispanic-owned healthcare company. In addition to his entrepreneurial endeavors, Cejas is involved in community and public service, currently serving on the national board of the Smithsonian National Institution, the international board of the Tate Museum and the board of the University of Miami.

Piero Gandini, from Bovezzo, Italy, is the president of Flos Lighting, an international lighting company that operates a subsidiary on Long Island. A husband and father of three, Gandini was inspired to become active in diabetes causes when one of his



Paul Cejas



Barbara Hatz



Piero Gandini



Joseph Maloney

daughters was diagnosed with the disease. In 2001, he founded Associazione Sostegno 70, insieme ai ragazzi diabetici, a non-profit organization established by a group of parents of children with diabetes that assists children, teens, and families after the onset of the illness. The organization aims to improve the quality of life for children and teens with diabetes through education, increased awareness, and the support of research.

For the past 19 years, Barbara Hatz has been a driving force on Long Island in both raising awareness and funds for diabetes causes since her son, Ben, was diagnosed in 1985 at the age of 10. In her efforts, she has become a lighthouse for parents who have a newly-diagnosed child. She has been active with the DRI as an executive board member since the creation of the Long Island regional board two years ago. Prior to that she held both vice president and president titles with the Juvenile Diabetes

Research Foundation and was honored on Long Island as Woman of the Year in 1995.

Joseph Maloney is the secretary-treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Department (BCTD) of the AFL-CIO. A labor leader and activist for nearly 30 years, Maloney graduated from the Harvard University Trade Union Program in 1993, and shortly thereafter was appointed director of the Canadian Office for the BCTD, AFL-CIO. He was elected secretary-treasurer of the department in January 2000.

# Willful Woman Sets her Mind on a Cure



Elda Bello Spano is a member of the Foundation's Heritage Society.

"I set my mind to do it," Elda Bello Spano simply stated, referring to her donation of retirement funds to the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation. In a nutshell, it's this phrase of determination that summarizes much of Spano's adult life. She wanted to provide funds for diabetes research and made the Foundation the co-beneficiary of her pension. "This is a little bit that I can contribute and know that I am helping someone's life."

Early on, Spano also set her mind to a 30-year career in banking before giving it all up to take care of her father. Diagnosed with type 1 when he was a boy, the late Oscar Bello was confined to a bed for nine years due to complications from diabetes. Though Spano had to quit her job and declare bankruptcy to care for him, she never regretted a moment, because she had already set her mind on something else. "I could go through bankruptcy, go through everything, but I refused to put him in a home. I have the satisfaction of knowing that I took whatever life could throw at me."

Diabetes complications weren't the only things life had to throw at Spano. Ten years before her father became bedridden, her husband fought a losing battle with leukemia. She took additional life blows when her mother passed away after suffering with Alzheimer's. Left with no immediate family or heirs, Spano wanted to ensure that her pension would be donated to the causes that were important to her.

"I made some inquiries and decided to support the DRI and leukemia research at Sylvester Cancer Center. I contacted my insurance company. They

sent me the form, recorded it and sent me a copy. That was it," concluded Spano, who currently works as a mortgage broker.

When retirement plan funds, such as an IRA or 401(k), are utilized to provide a gift for the DRI Foundation, that gift is fully deductible for estate tax purposes. Retirement plan funds left to children or heirs are subject to estate tax. Upon receipt of the gift, they will also be responsible for paying income tax based on their tax bracket. By gifting to the DRI Foundation, that gift is not subject to estate or income tax.

Children or heirs will fare better as recipients of cash and stocks, which receive a stepped up basis in the stock enabling them to pay income tax on the increase in the value of the stock from the date of death, as opposed to the original date of purchase.

Arranging for a gift of retirement plan funds is very simple. Additionally, the DRI Foundation can easily be made the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, a CD, or a mutual fund.

According to Elda Spano, "There are a lot of people who don't have family, and this is a great way to contribute a small token of hope." Thankfully, she has now set her mind on a future that holds a cure.

## 'Tis the Season for Workplace Giving



#0496



Now is the time that many companies kick off their workplace giving campaigns, which allow employees to donate to the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation through payroll deduction. You can encourage others to give in this way by becoming a Workplace Ambassador. It's one of the easiest ways you can get involved and ensure that critical funding for the DRI continues through your workplace giving campaign.

The Foundation is now a member of America's Charities, which is a federation of charitable organizations representing the diversity of our nation. For nearly 25 years, America's Charities has brought the best-known and most-loved charities to workplace giving.

Look for the DRI Foundation under America's Charities. The easiest way to find us is in the alphabetical index in the back of your campaign guide. If your employer does not have a payroll deduction charitable campaign or does not offer the option of giving to the DRI, ask about bringing America's Charities to your office.

In addition, many corporations offer matching gift programs, in which the company agrees to match the amount of your gift. To find out if your employer has a matching gift program, contact your personnel manager or the human resources department.

If you'd like to learn more about becoming a Workplace Ambassador, contact Kate McGuinness at 1-800-321-3437 or email [kmcguinness@drif.org](mailto:kmcguinness@drif.org).

# Major Donors Recognized for The



1) DRI Foundation board members Mark Rubin and Dr. William J. Rand present Rowland Schaefer (center) with the highest award, Innovation, 2) Doug (not pictured) and Sue Gallagher, Translation, 3) Martin B. Stein receives Realization from Gary Kleiman, executive director of medical development at the DRI, 4) DRI Foundation Director of Administration Barbara Singer (center) presents Exploration to representatives from the Seaver Institute, President and Vice Chairman Victoria Seaver Dean, with her husband Dorn (left), and Secretary Robert Flick (right), with his wife Sandi, 5) Shelly and Barbara Singer, Exploration, 6) Eleanor Lowe, Exploration, 7) Representing the Rose and Burton Kahn Family Foundation, Jane and Doug Jacobs and Laurie and Marc Kahn, Exploration, 8) Tricia and Tim Blash and Susan and Gary Weiss, on behalf of their late parents, Martha and Tom Blash, Exploration, 9) Bud and Diane Beber, Exploration, 10) Floyd and Jacci Seskin, Hypothesis, 11) Vera and Robert Nieweg, on behalf of his late brother Louis Nieweg, Hypothesis, 12) In recognition of their additional gift, Leadership Council members Paul and Trudy Cejas, Hypothesis, 13) DRIF President and CEO Robert A. Pearlman with Brendan Connors of Affiliated Graphics, Hypothesis, 14) President Edward C. Sullivan of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO with Mike Kelly of Kelly

# Our Ongoing Support



**In honor of its most generous supporters**, the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation held its fourth annual Cycle of Discovery Donor Appreciation Dinner on May 20 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Miami. That evening, it was announced that two new giving levels had been added to the Foundation’s Cycle of Discovery series: Chairman’s Council, recognizing donors who have contributed \$5 million or more, and Visionaries, honoring those who have given \$10 million or more.

Recognized with their respective awards at this dinner and at other events throughout the year were several contributors who have achieved a new giving level or who have made an initial major gift. The award program corresponds with the Foundation’s cumulative giving designations:

Donor Level		Award
Benefactors	\$25,000	Query
Founders	\$50,000	Hypothesis
Grand Founders	\$100,000	Exploration
Distinguished Humanitarians	\$250,000	Realization
Governors’ Society	\$500,000	Translation
Leadership Council	\$1,000,000	Perpetuation
Chairman’s Council	\$5,000,000	Validation
Visionaries	\$10,000,000	Innovation

*Press, Inc., Hypothesis, 15) Sullivan with Douglas H. Dority of United Food & Commercial Workers International Union, Hypothesis, 16) Barbi and Warren Lazarow, Query and Hypothesis, 17) Pearlman presents Query to Arthur Hertz, 18) Michele and Norman Seiden, Query, 19) Luis (not pictured) and Norma Quintero, Query, 20) Malcolm and Doree Fromberg, Query, 21) After receiving Query, Michael Sacco, president of Seafarers International Union of North America shakes hands with Pearlman, 22) Pearlman with Michael M. Arnold of the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust and AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust, Query, 23) Pearlman and Frank Hurt of Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, Query, 24) Sullivan with Rick Carter of Fluor Constructors International, Inc., Query, 25) Sullivan with David Chowdhury of Lazard Asset Management, Query, 26) Sullivan with William H. Young of National Association of Letter Carriers, Query, 27) Sullivan with Noel Borck of NMAPC, Inc., Query, 28) The Honorable Gaston Cantens, who sponsored a bill in the Florida legislature that continues to fund the DRI’s clinical islet program, accepts a token of appreciation from Pearlman. Photos Not Available: Washington CLUB, Hypothesis; Dwayne Priest of Household Credit Card Services, Query.*

# Under the Microscope

with *Camillo Ricordi, M.D.*



*Camillo Ricordi, M.D.*  
*Stacy Joy Goodman Professor of Surgery;*  
*Senior Associate Dean for Research;*  
*Chief, Division of Cellular Transplantation;*  
*Scientific Director and Chief Academic*  
*Officer, Diabetes Research Institute,*  
*University of Miami*

## Join us for the 5th Annual New York Research Update

Transplantation, Tolerance &  
Regenerative Treatments

Dr. Ricordi and other leading scientists will discuss the newest frontiers in diabetes research.

Saturday, October 23, 2004  
Grand Hyatt Hotel, New York City

For more information, contact  
Tom Karlya at the Foundation's  
Long Island office, 516-621-8804  
or [tkarlya@drif.org](mailto:tkarlya@drif.org).

Tremendous progress has been made in diabetes research since the first transplant experiments in the 1970's showed disease reversal in mice using human islet cells.

Today, selected centers in North America including our own have clearly demonstrated that it is possible to achieve insulin independence in patients through islet transplantation, prompting a renewed interest in the field and the opening of an increasing number of islet centers worldwide.

While several patients could claim victory, as we have witnessed at the last World of Hope Conference in Miami, it is clearly too early to celebrate for a series of reasons.

While most patients can become insulin independent after islet transplantation, the long-term results indicate that after three years less than half of them are still insulin independent. In some patients, the side effects of immunosuppression are too strong, while in others who better tolerate the anti-rejection drugs, we have observed a slow decrease in islet function over time. Of the several possible explanations, two are at the top of our list:

1. The immunosuppression, which is generally lowered after the first year post-transplant, is no longer sufficient to prevent a form of chronic, slow and progressive immune attack of some of the transplanted islets.

2. The anti-rejection drugs that we still use (e.g., Edmonton Protocol of immunosuppression), while necessary to prevent acute islet rejection, are still toxic in the long term to the transplanted insulin producing cells, and could even prevent islet cell proliferation, impairing their physiologic ability to replace the dying insulin producing cells over time. We know, in fact, that islets transplanted in the presence of toxic immunosuppressive drugs can fail within years. We also know that while using drugs that are not diabetogenic (not toxic to insulin producing cells), islets can continue to improve their function after transplantation, as we have observed in selected pre-clinical trials.

In any event, it was encouraging to observe that even islet transplant recipients who now require supplemental doses of insulin (generally one injection of Lantus per day), can indeed maintain good metabolic control. In fact, even in the presence of partial islet graft function, the surviving insulin-producing cells are generally capable of maintaining normal HbA1c and preventing severe hypoglycemic episodes.

Large-scale applicability of islet transplantation remains, therefore, elusive until we can resolve some of the remaining challenges. At the top of the list is the need to find better drug combinations that can allow islets to survive long-term without any significant undesired side effect for the recipients. The ultimate goal remains to develop safe and effective strategies to eliminate altogether the need for lifelong anti-rejection drugs, namely induction of donor specific tolerance to the transplanted islets, with restoration of self-tolerance (elimination of the autoimmune response against the insulin producing cells).

When we achieve these goals, we will then need an unlimited supply of high-quality insulin-producing cells so that all patients needing a transplant will be able to receive their own dose of life-saving cells.

In large part, the future and clinical success of islet transplantation relies on a very synergistic, sequential and integrated research approach. Recently, we have outlined the strategic model with the 11 key areas of research where we need to concentrate our efforts and build upon prior successes (see diagram). The outline of this approach has been accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of the journal, *Transplantation*.

After resolving in a sequential manner the principal challenges presented during each subsequent research era, we predict that ultimately, new and innovative research will lead to the restoration of tolerance to autoantigens in patients with type 1 diabetes, allowing for regeneration of patients' own insulin-producing tissue from native precursor cells, without the need for any transplant.

**Q: What have been the significant advances that have led us to the point where we are today?**

A: A greater number of scientists working in the field has moved things forward quickly within the last decade or so. Sufficient numbers of islets can now be routinely obtained from high quality organs now at the top centers. The field has advanced to the point where diabetes can generally be reversed using these good quality islet preparations from one or two donors.

**Q: Why has widespread use of islet transplantation presented so many challenges?**

A: Success with single donors is limited by the quality of the organ, and clearly there are not nearly enough pancreata to meet the need for research or for transplant. Setting up islet isolation facilities is expensive and there is a long learning curve for the technical team involved in the processing of organs. Multiple studies have verified that the more experienced the team, the better the results. Lastly, science remains highly competitive because researchers must compete for funding on a regular basis; if there could be more synergy between investigative teams as a whole, everyone could then pursue a more sequential, integrated approach.

**Q: What is the “integrated research approach”, and why is it so important?**

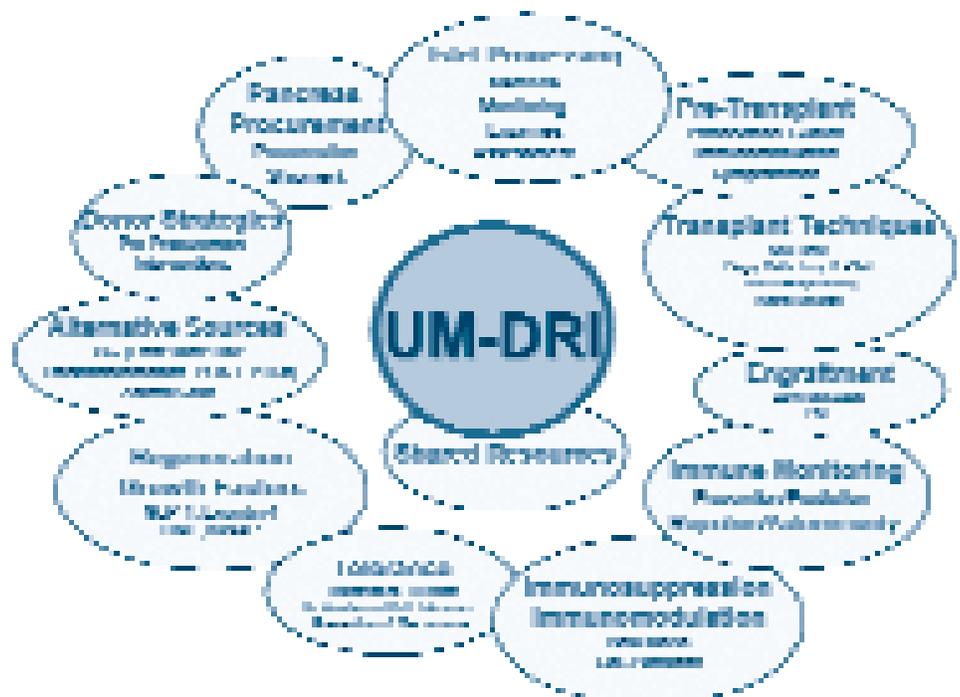
A: There are key areas of research, multidisciplinary areas, where progress will depend on synergistic teams, each concentrating on a given area or problem. This will be important throughout the entire line of investigation: organ procurement, to processing, to transplant, to patient management. Even a small step forward in one of these areas can have a huge impact downstream, and really speed up progress in any of the other fields being worked on.

**Q: The article in *Transplantation* references four “eras” of research progress over the next decades, and highlights the critical advancements that will take place in each of these eras. Where are we now, and what are the advancements in each era that we will see over time?**

A: We are in the first era, attempting to overcome the challenges that lead to loss of islets, during isolation and after transplantation. This includes research into improving procurement, culturing and preservation, donor factors, cellular processing and many others. The second era will be defined by the achievement of immune tolerance in the recipient. The third era will move tolerance forward and lead to living-related donor transplants. The fourth era will be marked by regeneration of insulin-producing cells from a patient’s own stem cells, the restoration of tolerance of autoantigens, and the eventual demise of islet transplantation as a therapy since it will no longer be needed; we will have cured the disease.

**Q: How is the Diabetes Research Institute addressing the areas of research necessary to bring us through each era?**

A: The DRI is a highly collaborative and highly focused research enterprise, a place like no other. At the Institute, we prioritize every experiment and purposefully look for synergistic opportunities with colleagues from other centers in ways that will move diabetes research forward. We have investigators working in all of the key areas of research: organ procurement and preservation, cell processing, pre-transplant culture, engraftment, immune monitoring, immunosuppression and immunomodulation, tolerance, regeneration and growth factors, alternative sources, etc. We will not leave any potentially critical stone unturned.



# Continuing the Dad's Day Tradition



*In constructing the new Coal Fired Power Plant in Iowa, funds are being donated to the DAD's Day Foundation for every 100,000 man-hours of non-recordable accident-free hours during the construction phase of the project. Pictured: Teresa Jaquinta, site safety director, Robert Hall of the Omaha Building and Trades/Asbestos Workers #39, and Bill Collins, project superintendent.*

"DAD's Day is a great union tradition and the Roofers in Detroit are proud to be part of that tradition," said Lee Bruner of Roofers Local 149 at the 18th annual Dollars Against Diabetes campaign, which took place on Father's Day weekend. Stationed at various locations across the country, union members hit busy intersections to request donations from passersby. The campaign has raised more than \$18 million since its inception in 1987.

"This year, Building Trades men and women united together to raise \$1 million for the DRI," stated Edward Sullivan, president of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO.

Jerry Feldhaus, president of the St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council, explained that "DAD's Day gives all the crafts an opportunity to come together and work as one to help mankind."

While street corner collections are still the core of the DAD's Day campaign, union members raise additional funds for diabetes research through walk-a-thons, motorcycle rides, softball tournaments, raffles and other local events. In fact, there are now 50 golf tournaments held between April and October that contribute to the cause.

The 15 unions that participated in DAD's Day include: International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers; International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers; International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers;



*The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, AFL-CIO, CLC, 2003 Building Trades Softball Slam Champions, held at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies in Silver Spring, Maryland, has raised more than \$50,000 for the DRI. The tournament is sponsored by the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers.*



*Steve Harty (right holding banner), president of the Motorcycle Club of the Ironworkers Local #5, chaired the second annual DAD's Day Poker Run in Washington, D.C.*

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades; International Brotherhood of Teamsters; International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers; International Union of Elevator Constructors; International Union of Operating Engineers; Laborers' International Union of North America; Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada; Sheet Metal Workers' International Association; United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; and United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers.

Sullivan concluded, "DAD's Day provides hope to all of those Americans with diabetes, and I am confident that the DRI will find a cure."

## EVENTS

### California



#### Sugar Ray Leonard Chairs DRI Golf Classic

Celebrity Chair Sugar Ray Leonard and Tournament Chair Kiara Walbridge welcomed 136 golf enthusiasts to California's inaugural DRI Golf Classic, held May 24th at El Caballero Country Club in Tarzana. The event, which raised \$140,000, garnered support from national celebrities like sports interviewer Roy Firestone, who served as Master of Ceremonies, and committee member John Ratzemberger, and featured a golf clinic led by Senior PGA professional Mark Pfeil.

Special thanks were extended to Gold Club sponsors: Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Marks, City National Bank, Dave DiTomaso and Subway of Ventura County, Navigant Consulting, Roberta and Steve Small, Wells Fargo Foothill,

the Werdesheim Family, and J.R. Whitcher along with Royal Catering and Heineken USA. Pictured: California board member Ken Bernstein presented a prize to putting contest winners, Sandi Flick and Joe Seedman.

# Labor of Love *Nears its 20th Anniversary*



Edward Sullivan (fourth from left) and general presidents of the Building and Construction Trades Department, along with other AFL-CIO presidents join together at Labor of Love.

The AFL-CIO's business and labor communities united for the 19th year in a row at the Labor of Love Tournament, held simultaneously at two locations, the Diplomat Country Club and Hillcrest Country Club in South Florida. The March 6 event attracted more than 200 golfers for a beautiful day of golf followed by an awards reception. During the program, a surprise donation of \$25,000 was made in Edward Sullivan's honor by Sandra Stein and her daughter Laura Stein of Milberg Weiss. After thanking everyone for their generosity, Sullivan announced that next year's tournament would be held at the Lost Canyons Golf Club in Simi Valley, CA. "We look forward to our 20th anniversary of the Labor of Love in 2005," he said.



Vice President of Convention Sales Drew Varga and National Sales Manager Nancy Smalskas of Ballys/Paris and Flamingo Las Vegas present Edward Sullivan with a check for \$70,000.



Colleen meets her uncle, Dr. Gerard Martin, at the Atlantic Ocean.

## Michigan Doctor Bikes Across America to help cure niece

Detroit emergency room doctor, Gerard Martin sees his share of complications from diabetes every day. On a more personal level, his niece, Colleen, was diagnosed seven years ago at the age of four, and since then, he has experienced first hand the toll this disease can take on a young child's life. In an effort to help find a cure for Colleen and millions like her, Dr. Martin embarked on a cross-country bicycle journey, which began in Astoria, Oregon on June 20 and finished in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on August 9.

"Colleen lives with the future unknown. I decided to do something that could raise

money and awareness about this devastating disease," stated Martin, who traveled the ever-changing terrain on a recumbent bike, which allows the rider to sit in an actual seat as opposed to being perched atop a narrow saddle. At the end of the 50-day excursion, which he biked with 57 other riders, Martin's family and friends, including Colleen and her mother, Rita Crowley, met him at the finish line, where the 50-year-old claimed he would do it all over again.

In addition to the 3,622-mile trip, Colleen and kids from across the nation wrote letters to raise support for their campaign, Kids "Letter-Riding" Across America. To date, the effort has raised more than \$30,000 and contributions are still coming in.

To get the campaign started, Colleen wrote a letter, which is posted on DRInet.org, stating, "My goal is to get as many kids as possible to write letters to their friends and family asking to support diabetes research. It is simple and fun and every kid who signs up will receive a Snoopy Membership Pin." She continued, "Imagine how much money we can raise together."

Colleen's mom said, "The response has been overwhelming. We're blown away by the money sent in from people we don't even know." After attending the New York Research Conference, Crowley became a strong DRI supporter claiming, "They're the ones who are going to cure it, and we want to be part of it."



## Laughing All the Way to a Cure

Some think that laughter is the best medicine. The Foundation's California office put this old adage to a test at "Laugh for the Cure," an evening of comedy at the Conga Room in Los Angeles. Comedian Bill Engvall, star of the *Blue Collar Comedy Tour, The Movie*, headlined the event, performing his hilarious routine, "Here's Your Sign," to an audience of 240. Hosted by Melissa Peterman, the evening also included performances by comedians Alex Reymundo and Mike Caveney. Thanks to event chair Jane Paulson (left) and the hardworking committee, the event raised \$63,000. Also pictured: Sandy and Bill Boeck.

# EVENTS

## Long Island & Florida



### Crystal Ball Continues Pathway of Success

In their first year as chairpersons of the Crystal Ball, Risa and Jeff Pulver (far right) were successful in continuing the upward momentum of this enchanting affair. Held at Long Island's Garden City Hotel, the April 24 event raised \$650,000. The evening program paid tribute to Honorees Bernadette and Owen Smith (center, left) and the recipients of the Gillin Family Humanitarian Award, Ann and Dr. Irwin Kellner (center, right). Chairman of the Board Marc Goodman and his wife Esther (far left) proudly presented the Crystal Ball Scientific Achievement Award to Dr. Camillo Ricordi in recognition of his significant contributions to the field.

One of the evening's highlights was once again the live auction, which featured the signature Fund-a-Grant portion that was matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000 by the Stacy Joy Goodman Foundation. Other exciting items up for bid included Super Bowl tickets, a walk-on part for the TV smash hit, *The Sopranos*, and tickets to the Grammy's. Also getting into the fundraising arena, the Pulvers' 10-year-old twins, Jake and Dylan, generously used their birthday money to purchase a Nintendo Game Cube with accessories and donated the basket to the silent auction.

### Annual Dinner Raises Funds and Hope

At Long Island's Children's Best Hope for a Cure Dinner, chairpersons Michele and Peter Bongiorno (pictured with their daughters, Lauren and Dana) welcomed more than 500 guests to an evening of dinner, dancing and auctions, held at Jericho Terrace in Mineola on March 18. The third annual event raised \$415,000. Special thanks were extended to Honoree Michael F. Greco and to the evening's sponsors, including: Michael F. Greco & Family, Jeff and Jeanine Greco; Larry and Debi Sangirardy; Quality Building Contractors; Southern Cross Land & Development; Arnone, Lowth, Fanning, Wilson & Rubin; Arnone, Lowth, Mullady & Greco/The Heritage Group, LLC; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Belesi and Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Rine; Bongiorno & Bongiorno, LLP; Comerford Family; Joe Messana of Perfect Forms & Systems, Inc.; Physicians Reciprocal Insurers; Prime Financial; and The Producers Group Advantage.



### Another Strike for Lanie



Though Helaine Shari White, lovingly remembered as Lanie, lost her battle with diabetes at the age of 33, her enduring spirit and lust for life will not soon be forgotten. For the past few years, her family members have been organizing the Lanie's Lanes Bowl-a-thon in her memory. Led by the White, Spiegel, and Boritz families (pictured), the group has raised more than \$100,000 for the DRI. This year's event was held at the East Meadow Lanes in Long Island on March 7.



### Fishing Tournament Lures DRI Support

In an effort to find a cure for their daughter, Lynda and Howard Kolbenhayer teamed up with Patricia and Fred Kegelmeyer to create the Ghost Hunt. Sponsored by the Key Largo Fishing Guides Association, the third annual bonefish tournament kicked off at Kolbenhayer's restaurant, Snapper's Raw Bar & Waterfront Saloon, in April. Pictured: Captain Todd McLean, Kolbenhayer, and Captain George Clark, Jr. presented the event's proceeds to DRI Foundation representative Nicole Otto.

### A Venetian Carnival in Palm Beach



Masquerading in masks and costumes, Palm Beachers enjoyed Il Carnevale di Venezia, an evening of dinner, dancing, and auctions set to the theme of 17th century Italy. Authentic Baroque masks were part of both the table decorations and the silent auction, and models paraded about in elaborate costumes of the time. Held at the Four Seasons Resort on March 26, this exciting gala was chaired by Nancy Sexauer Walsh (pictured with Ed Wignall and two "Living Candles") and generously supported by Honorary Chairpersons Carl DeSantis and Sandi Strichman, Doge David Stern, King and Queen Helen and James Rosburg and Principessas Helen Boehm and Nancy Frank.



## Love and Hope Wraps its 30th Anniversary

Following the success of their 30th fundraising season, members of the Love and Hope Committee were recognized at the annual closing event, the Thank You Luncheon, held May 4 at the Westview Country Club in Miami. "It was a once in a lifetime experience," said Life Chairman Sonja Zuckerman (right) as she thanked Barry Gibb for his intimate performance at the Ball, which in combination with the Preview Party raised nearly \$1 million.

Special thanks were also extended to all of the honorees, sponsors and Gold Rose recipients, those who pledged \$5,000 or more at the Preview Party. Capping off the afternoon luncheon, Sonja, joined by executive committee member Judy Newell (left), then presented the coveted Star Award to Ruth Rosenberg (center), stating, "She has been with us for 30 years. I don't think she's ever missed a Preview Party or a Ball. She has been a Gold Rose every year, and one year, a Ball Honoree. She's generous, loyal, dependable, and a real star in all of our eyes."

## Don Strock Diabetes Classic Scores Again



Raising approximately \$144,000, the 21st annual Don Strock Diabetes Classic, presented by the Miami Seaquarium, attracted more than 200 golfers and sports celebrities to the Miccosukee Golf & Country Club on May 12. Following a day of friendly competition, attendees enjoyed a cocktail reception and awards dinner, plus silent and live auctions, and a poignant speech by islet transplant recipient Gary Kleiman.

During the program, Tournament Chairman Bruce Fishbein of The Produce Connection and Don Strock, Head Coach of the F.I.U. Golden Panthers (back, left), presented awards to tournament sponsors: (standing) Arthur Hertz, Miami Seaquarium, presenting sponsor; Bruce Schumin, M & R Produce Distributors; Adam Homan, Six L's; Jeff Pfaff, Top Tomato; Jim Oppenheimer, The Oppenheimer Group; John Backer, Freedom Fresh; Manny Chica, Crystal Springs; John Marini, Heineken USA, Inc.; Sean White, Minuteman Press of Boca Raton; Joe Kettinger, Outback Steakhouse; Vince Gonzalez, Tropical Shipping; (seated) Julio Martinez, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida; Doug Tannehill, C.H. Robinson Worldwide; J. Fernando Quinonez, Maersk SeaLand; Everett Miller, Taylor Farms Florida; Morris Corbitt, The Produce Connection; and Chick Ciccarelli, Riverside Fruit & Vegetable. Not pictured: A-One-A Produce and Dairy, American Fruit and Produce Corp., Florida Mushroom, Bocchi Americas Associates, Sunkist, Dole, Warren Henry Automobiles, Comcast Spotlight, Von Kantor Photography, Coca Cola, Blue Star Jets, and Kelloggs Snacks.

## Big Daddy's Big Heart Brings Big Bucks

Vince Wilfork, otherwise known as Big Daddy to former Hurricanes teammates and fans, was the number one pick by defending Super Bowl champion, the New England Patriots, and the 21st selection overall in the April 24th NFL Draft. Instead of traveling to New York for the event, Wilfork and wife Bianca (pictured) decided to host the Big Daddy Draft Day Fest at Gameworks in Miami to benefit the DRI. The defensive tackle lost his father to diabetes complications in 2002.



## Toasting Another Successful Feast Among the Grapes



Some proclaimed that the 13th annual Feast Among the Grapes, in cooperation with Wine Spectator, was the best event to date. With proceeds totaling more than \$160,000, there's no denying the evening's success. Held at Parrot Jungle Island on June 12, more than 1,000 guests reveled in decadent delights, including samplings from more than 30 of South Florida's hottest restaurants, plus vintage domestic and imported wines from an array of the area's top wineries. A VIP champagne reception, sponsored by Rand Eye Institute, was held in honor of artist Romero Britto (center). Special thanks was extended to the hardworking committee, led by co-chairs Barbara Amoils (right), Randy Furshman (left), Andy and Judy Waks, and David Walker (not pictured).